



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

April 7, 2016

Mr. Adam Pallai
Professional Engineer
Martin Engineering Company
3223 South Meadowbrook
Springfield, IL 62711

**Re: Village of Curran - Sanitary Force Main
Endangered Species Consultation Program
Project Number(s): 1606745
Alternate Project Number(s):
County: Sangamon**

Dear Mr. Pallai:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation and wetland review for the **Village of Curran - Sanitary Force Main**, located in **Sangamon** County, Section **10**, Township **15N**, and Range **6W**. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075*, the *Interagency Wetland Policy Act* [20 ILCS 830], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code Part 1090*.

The proposed action involves: "Construct a force main sewer to carry the waste to a public sewer manhole along Lenhart Road."

E&T Review

The following protected resources occur in the vicinity of the project area and proposed action: **Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)**

To minimize or avoid potential adverse impacts, the Department recommends the measures described below be implemented by Martin Engineering Company.

The Department is concerned with the effect construction activities, machinery, and vehicles could have on the Franklin's Ground Squirrel and habitat within the vicinity of this project. Construction activities could cause squirrels and habitat to be harmed by extensive excavations/trenches, equipment and vehicles. Due to the presence of EOR's for the State-

listed threatened **Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Poliocitellus franklinii*)**, the Department recommends the following:

Recommendation: Use directional boring methods for force main installation from Bunker Hill Road to Lenhart Rd termination point to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to the Franklin's Ground Squirrel and its habitat.

If this recommendation for directional boring cannot be met, the Department recommends the applicant apply for an Incidental Take Authorization, in accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1080., from the Department's Office of Resource Conservation, pursuant to 520 ILCS 10/5.5. 'Take' means, in reference to animals and animal products, to harm, hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, wound, kill, destroy, harass, gig, spear, ensnare, trap, capture, collect, or to attempt to engage in such conduct. Communication concerning an ITA application should be directed to Jenny Skufca - Incidental Take Authorization Coordinator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL, 62702, (217)557-8243, jenny.skufca@illinois.gov.

Recommendation: To avoid creating habitat to attract the Franklin's ground squirrel into the project area during construction, avoid stockpiling soil on the property for extended periods. As an additional measure, install dug in silt fencing around stockpiled soils to avoid and minimize Franklin's Ground Squirrel use and colonization until those stockpiles can be used or removed.

Recommendation: Educate and inform construction crews and all on-site personnel about Franklin's Ground Squirrels before work begins. Distribute photos of the species and discuss the site management plan for responding to encounters in a training session and at the preconstruction site meeting. If a Franklin's Ground Squirrel is encountered on site in the construction zone, inform crews to immediately stop construction in the surrounding area and contact the Department's Heritage Biologist, Ray Geroff, 217/285-2221; keeping in mind it is a criminal act to handle a listed species.

Wetland Review

The Illinois Wetlands Inventory does not show wetlands within 250 feet of the project location and the Department has concluded that adverse impacts to wetlands are unlikely. However, strict adherence to best management practices for erosion and sedimentation control should be used to minimize the possibility of any adverse impacts to nearby wetlands and listed species.

Summary

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 and the Wetland Review under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1090 are terminated. The Department recommends any and all measures and/or recommendations be implemented by the applicant, and be required by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity as a condition of the grant agreement/funding.

Consultation for Part 1075 is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented

within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary. Consultation for Part 1090 (Interagency Wetland Policy Act) is valid for three years.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database and the Illinois Wetlands Inventory at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon R. Fairfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

Sheldon R. Fairfield
Impact Assessment Section
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (217) 782-0031
Sheldon.Fairfield@illinois.gov